

Claims

The listing of claims is provided as a convenience to the Examiner.

Listing of Claims:

1-20. (Canceled)

21. (Previously Presented) A method of inputting a password for authentication in a user authentication system, the method comprising:

displaying a matching board comprising a certain cell and at least one other cell and a reference board comprising a first cell and at least one other cell on a user interface; and

receiving the password from a user matching a symbol within the certain cell of the matching board with a password symbol within the first cell of the reference board, to authenticate the received password, such that the matching board moves to allow the certain cell of the matching board to correspond with the first cell of the reference board in response to the certain cell and the first cell not already being in correspondence with one another, wherein positions of the first cell and the at least one other cell of the reference board are altered and positions of the certain cell and the at least one other cell of the matching board are not altered in response to the certain cell and the first cell not already being in correspondence with one another.

22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, wherein the receiving comprises receiving the password corresponding to a combination of the certain cell of the matching board matched by the user with the first cell of the reference board having the password symbol, and the certain cell of the matching board matched by the user with a second cell of the reference board comprising a second password symbol.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, wherein:

the displaying comprises displaying the matching board comprising a plurality of cells and the reference board comprising a plurality of cells, and

one or more other cells of the matching board is matched with corresponding one or more cells of the reference board comprising a symbol, concurrently with matching of the certain cell of

the matching board with the first cell of the reference board having the password symbol, so as to prevent revealing of a symbol of the cell of the reference board matched with the certain cell of the matching board as the password symbol of the user.

24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23, further comprising removing one of the matching board and the reference board after a predetermined time from displaying the matching board and the reference board.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23, wherein in response to the one or more cells of the reference board corresponding to the one or more other cells of the matching board not being displayed where one of the matching board and the reference board is moved with respect to the other, the reference board is refreshed to display the one or more cells so as to match the cells of the matching board with the cells of the reference board.

26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23, wherein one of the matching board and the reference board is moved with respect to the other so as to place the cells of the matching board adjacent to and match with the cells of the reference board.

27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 26, wherein:
the displaying of the reference board comprises displaying a first reference board comprising a plurality of cells having respective symbols, the first reference board including the first cell having a symbol which is the password symbol of the user, and a second reference board comprising a plurality of cells having respective symbols, the second reference board including a symbol which is a second password symbol of the user,
the displaying of the matching board comprises displaying the matching board comprising the plurality of cells having respective symbols, the matching board including the certain cell having a symbol private to the user, and
the first and second reference boards are moved with respect to the matching board so as to line up the password symbol and the second password symbol with the symbol of the matching board private to the user to enter the password.

28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23, wherein one of the matching board and the reference board is moved with respect to the other so as to overlap to match the cells of the matching board with the cells of the reference board.

29. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 28, wherein:

the displaying of the reference board comprises displaying the reference board comprising the plurality of cells having respective symbols, the reference board including the first cell having a symbol which is the password symbol of the user,

the displaying of the matching board comprises displaying the matching board comprising the plurality of cells having respective symbols, the matching board including the certain cell having a symbol private to the user, and

the matching board is moved with respect to the reference board so as to overlap the cells of the matching board with the cells of the reference board, including the certain cell of the matching board having the symbol private to the user being overlapped with the first cell of the reference board having the password symbol to enter the password.

30. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, wherein:

the displaying of the reference board comprises displaying the reference board comprising a plurality of cells having respective symbols, the reference board including the first cell having a symbol which is the password symbol of the user,

the displaying of the matching board comprises displaying the matching board comprising a plurality of cells having respective symbols, the matching board including the certain cell having a symbol private to the user, and

the receiving of the password comprises receiving a password corresponding to a combination of the symbol of the matching board private to the user and the password symbol of the reference board privy to the user.

31. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 30, wherein:

the displaying of the reference board further comprises displaying a second reference board comprising a plurality of cells having respective symbols, the second reference board including a cell having a second password symbol privy to the user,

the displaying of the matching board further comprises displaying a second matching board comprising a plurality of cells having respective symbols, the second matching board including a cell having a second symbol private to the user, and

the receiving of the password comprises receiving a password corresponding to a combination of the symbol private to the user and the password symbol, and a combination of the second symbol private to the user and the second password symbol.

32. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 30, wherein one or more other cells of the matching board is matched with corresponding one or more cells of the reference board, concurrently with matching of the certain cell of the matching board with the cell of the reference board having the password symbol, so as to prevent revealing of the symbol of the cell of the reference board matched with the certain cell of the matching board as the password symbol of the user.

33. (Withdrawn) A method for inputting a password for authentication, the method comprising:

- displaying a matching board and a reference board on a user interface;

- displaying a movement of one of the matching board and the reference board with respect to the other in accordance with a user interfacing with the user interface; and

- displaying matching of a certain cell of the matching board with a cell of the reference board comprising a symbol private to the user to input the password.

34. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 33, wherein:

- the displaying of the matching board and the reference board comprises displaying the matching board comprising a plurality of cells and the reference board comprising a plurality of cell, and

- the matching comprises matching one or more other cells of the matching board with corresponding one or more cells of the reference board comprising a symbol, concurrently with matching of the certain cell of the matching board with the cell of the reference board having the symbol private to the user, so as to prevent revealing of the symbol of the reference board matched with the certain cell of the matching board as private to the user.

35. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 34, wherein the displaying of the movement comprises displaying movement by moving one of the matching board and the reference board with respect to the other electronically and/or mechanically to match the cells of the matching board with the cells of the reference board.

36. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 34, wherein:

- the displaying of the reference board comprises displaying a first reference board comprising a plurality of cells having respective symbols, the first reference board including the cell

having the symbol private to the user, and a second reference board comprising a plurality of cells having respective symbols, the second reference board including a second symbol private to the user,

the displaying of the matching board comprises displaying the matching board comprising the plurality of cells having respective symbols, the matching board including the certain cell having a symbol private to the user, and

the displaying of the movement comprises displaying movement of the first and second reference boards with respect to the matching board so as to line up the symbols of the reference boards private to the user with the symbol of the matching board private to the user.

37. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 34, wherein:

the displaying of the reference board comprises displaying the reference board comprising the plurality of cells having respective symbols, the reference board including the cell having the symbol private to the user,

the displaying of the matching board comprises displaying the matching board comprising the plurality of cells having respective symbols, the matching board including the certain cell having a symbol private to the user, and

the displaying of the movement comprises displaying movement of the matching board with respect to the reference board so as to overlap the cells of the matching board with the cells of the reference board, including the certain cell of the matching board having the symbol private to the user being overlapped with the cell of the reference board having the symbol private to the user.

38. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 34, wherein:

the displaying of the reference board comprises displaying the reference board comprising the plurality of cells having respective symbols, the reference board including the cell having the symbol private to the user,

the displaying of the matching board comprises displaying the matching board comprising the plurality of cells having respective symbols, the matching board including the certain cell having a symbol private to the user, and

the password comprises the symbol of the matching board private to the user and the symbol of the reference board private to the user.

39. (Withdrawn) A method for inputting a password for authentication, the method

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comprising:

- displaying a first set of symbols including a symbol private to a user;
- displaying a second set of symbols including a symbol private to the user; and
- displaying matching of the symbol of the first set private to the user with the symbol of the second set private to the user, concurrently with matching of one or more other symbols of the first set with corresponding one or more symbols of the second set, to prevent revealing of the symbol of the first set and the symbol of the second set private to the user.

40. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29, wherein the symbols are one of numbers, characters, graphics, pictures, and a combination thereof.